മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കണ്ണൻനായർ : എനിക്ക ഓർമ്മയില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ആർ. വിശ്വംഭരൻ : ഇവിടെ കാണിച്ച കണക്കുകൾകൊണ്ട് അരയ സമുദായത്തിനു ശരിയായ പ്രാതിനിദ്ധ്യം കിട്ടുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു മനസ്സിലായിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കണ്ണൻനായർ : ഇതിൽനിന്ന് അതു മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

XB ENGINES ON THE STATE RAILWAY.

71. Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of XB engines used in the State Railway;

(*b*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent criticisms about XB engines in the Bhita Inquiry Committee;

(*c*) if the answer to question (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government think it advisable to retain XB engines in the State Railway?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Only the Cochin Expresses 931 and 932 are worked by XB engines.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The criticism made against XB engines in the report on the Bhita disaster was that the engines may commence hunting at different speeds ranging from 45 to 55 miles per hour and that the effect of such hunting might be to distort the track. The Railway Board have ordered that damping gear shall be provided to XB engines with a view to reduce the propensity of these engines to hunt at high speed. This work is in progress and all XB engines on the State Railway will be modified accordingly. As the speed of all engines is restricted to 40 miles per hour on the State Railway, there can absolutely be no objection to the use of XB engines.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Are the Government certain that if the engines move at 40 miles there will be no disaster?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): That is what the Railway Board think. It is only at 45 and 50 miles speed that they begin to develop hunting propensity.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*): May I know whether these engines are owned by the State?

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Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): No.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*): May I know, Sir, whether there is any objection to changing this?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): There is no necessity to change it.

WATER SUPPLY IN ERNAKULAM.

72. Mr. M. L. Joseph (*Latin Christians-Cranganur*):

(*a*) Why have the Government refrained from giving water supply to many of the newly opened roads of the Ernakulam Town;

(*b*) were there not petitions from more than three people at a time;

(*c*) is not water tax being collected from owners of houses near these roads;

(*d*) do not the Government think it proper to stop collecting water tax from houses which have no facility of getting pipe water?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) There is no refraining as alleged. The Municipality is laying mains in new roads as far as funds permit.

(*b*) The Municipality is taking action on the petitions received.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Government do not think so.

LAND MORTGAGE BANK—INSTALMENTS—PARTICULARS REGARDING.

73. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of instalments by which thousand rupees (Rs. 1,000) borrowed from the Land Mortgage Bank has to be repaid;

(*b*) has the Government realised the fact that, on account of the present instalment system, poor peasants who really are in need of the Land Mortgage Bank find it difficult to seek its help;

(*c*) will the Government be pleased to reduce the instalment amount, extending the number of instalments?

Mr. P. J. George (*Joint Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) 20 annual instalments. This applies to all sums borrowed (By-law 61).

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